

ARTS ENDOWMENT GRANTS PROGRAM



The Stockton Arts Commission serves as a catalyst to support, sustain, and strengthen the community by increasing opportunities, awareness, and involvement in arts and cultural activities.

Mission Statement, Adopted February 2003

STOCKTON ARTS COMMISSION

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GUIDELINES

ARTS ENDOWMENT GRANTS

Please refer to the accompanying application form.

Program Overview

The Stockton City Council established an Arts Endowment of \$1.3 million in January 2001 to create an arts grants program, administered by the Stockton Arts Commission. This program makes annual grants to Stockton arts organizations, artists and arts educators to fund arts projects involving public events and activities. Grants are funded from interest earned on the Arts Endowment, so that it will remain a permanent resource for the community. All grants require matching funds.

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Arts Endowment grants is to:

- Increase public awareness of Stockton's arts resources
- Strengthen Stockton's arts resources
- Support collaborative programs
- Educate people about the arts
- Serve a diverse audience
- Provide more arts events to the public (performances, exhibits, classes, etc.)
- Provide arts events in the downtown central core, reinforcing economic development goals in that area

Who May Apply

Resident arts organizations (both nonprofit and unincorporated), individual artists and arts educators are eligible to apply. All artistic disciplines are eligible: performing, visual and literary, including mainstream, contemporary and ethnic art forms.

Residency is defined as:

- For Organizations: Serving a Stockton audience and having a business office or primary venue in Stockton.
- For Individual Artists: Having your primary residence in Stockton.
- For Arts Educators: Teaching in a school, college or university in Stockton, not necessarily living in Stockton.

The following are not eligible to apply:

- Non-residents (see residency definitions above)
- Businesses that are established or operated primarily for profit
- Religious organizations
- Non-arts organizations providing arts programs
- Public art projects: Grants cannot be used to wholly or partially finance artwork commissioned by the City of Stockton under its Public Art Program and Master Plan for Public Art.
- Grantees may not receive grants in more than two consecutive years; if a grantee receives grants in two consecutive years, they must wait at least a year before re-applying.

What We Fund

All applicants must propose a grant project that includes public arts events and/or activities provided in Stockton. Project events/activities might include performances, exhibits, classes, workshops, festivals, screenings, and readings. Project events/activities must take place between July of 2004 and June of 2005. While projects may involve existing programs, funding shall enable the applicant to provide more or new activities, and not merely replace existing support from other sources. Projects proposed by arts educators must serve primarily a public audience, not only the educational purpose of their school or campus.

Review Criteria

Applications will be assessed and compared by the following review criteria:

- Artistic and/or Educational Excellence (30%): Projects are considered more desirable from an applicant whose past work and qualifications are of high quality, in relation to the proposed project.
- Community Impact (30%): Projects are considered more desirable when they reach a large audience, advance an art form, and/or significantly increase the applicant's capacity to serve the community.
- Ability to Fulfill the Project (20%): Projects are considered more desirable from an applicant with a demonstrated ability to fulfill the project and a convincing project work plan.
- Targeted Impact (20%): Projects are considered more desirable when they reach a diverse or under-served audience, involve collaboration, and/or involve a downtown venue (within the area bounded by Madison Street, Harding Way, Union Street and Hazelton Avenue).

Grant Amounts, Matching Funds and Payments

Grants are typically between \$1,000 and \$10,000. In the first years of the Arts Endowment, it is anticipated that approximately 10 to 12 awards will be made from a total of approximately \$50,000 available for grants. In future years, the total amount will vary according to the investment return on endowment funds. All grantees must match Arts Endowment funds on a one-to-one basis; this requirement can be satisfied with any earned or contributed income, including in-kind donations. Awards are normally paid at the start of the project, when the grant agreement is signed, not on a reimbursement basis.

How We Make Funding Decisions

The Arts Commission reviews applications and makes funding decisions based on the review criteria. Commissioners assess applications individually and collectively, and then award funds to those with the highest scores. For the sake of efficiency, the Arts Commission's Arts Endowment Committee pre-screens applications for eligibility and a threshold level of competitiveness, choosing a manageable number for consideration by the full Commission in a public meeting. Arts Commissioners with a conflict of interest in

any given application are excluded from consideration of that application. Funding decisions will be announced by June 30, 2004; grant payments will be made in July 2004.

How to Apply

Application forms are available from Arts Commission staff and from the Commission's website (<http://www.stocktongov.com/arts>). Fully completed applications must be mailed or delivered to the City Clerk's Office at 425 N. El Dorado Street, Stockton, CA 95204 by March 30, 2004 (a postmark deadline). All applicants are encouraged to attend an application workshop on either of the following dates:

Wednesday, February 11, 2004, 6 to 8 p.m.

North Hall, Stockton Civic Auditorium, 525 N. Center St., Stockton CA

Saturday, February 21, 2004, 9 to 11 a.m.

North Hall of Stockton Civic Auditorium, 525 N. El Dorado St., Stockton CA

Grantee Responsibilities

Grantees are required to fulfill their projects, meet the matching funds requirement, credit the Stockton Arts Commission in project and promotional materials, and submit a report within 60 days of the project's completion. Grantees must also contact staff in advance to discuss any substantial changes in the project.

For More Information

For more information on the Arts Endowment Grants, please contact the Arts Commission Director at 209-937-7488 or stknarts@ci.stockton.ca.us.

Appeals

An applicant denied funding may appeal if the applicant believes there was a procedural error in the review of their application. Appeals cannot be based on a disagreement with the Commission's assessment of their application. Examples of procedural violations are: a complete application was submitted but not presented; or a conflict of interest was not disclosed. Appeals must be made in writing within two weeks of the date the denial was mailed, and will be reviewed and decided by the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, the Arts Commission Chair, and the Chair of the Arts Endowment Committee. If the appeal is deemed to have merit, the remedy is re-consideration of the application by the Commission.